PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: O71412

Kenji SHIMIZU, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/630,796

Group Art Unit: 1774

Confirmation No.: 9751

Examiner: RICKMAN, Holly C.

Filed: July 31, 2003

For:

MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM, PRODUCTION PROCESS THEREOF, AND

MAGNETIC RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/630,796

earlier), and therefore the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is to be charged to Deposit

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The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such

document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any

listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue

Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheldon I. Landsman

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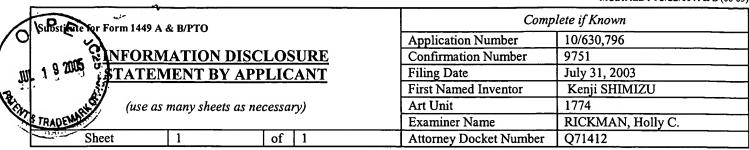
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Date: July 19, 2005

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number		Publication Date		
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
		US 6,403,203	B2	06-11-2002	Futamoto et al	
		US 5,815,342		09-29-1998	Akiyama et al	
		US 2004/0013909	A1	01-22-2004	Shimizu et al	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.			
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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